

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] beginning on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0001] The present application is related to the following co-pending U.S. applications: Serial No. 10/776,514 (Attorney Docket 117544) entitled "Systems and Methods for Generating High Compression Image Data Files Having Multiple Foreground Planes"; Serial No. 10/776,515 (Attorney Docket 117521) entitled "Systems and Methods for Identifying Regions Within an Image Having Similar Continuity Values"; Serial No. 10/776,608 (Attorney Docket 117745) entitled "Systems and Methods for Connecting Regions of Image Data having Similar Characteristics"; Serial No. 10/776,602 (Attorney Docket 117746) entitled "Systems and Methods for Organizing Image Data Into Regions"; Serial No. 10/776,603 (Attorney Docket 117747) entitled "Systems and Methods for Adjusting Image Data to Form Highly Compressible Image Planes"; Serial No. 10/776,620 (Attorney Docket 117748) entitled "Method and Apparatus for Reduced Size Image"; Serial No. 10/776,509 (Attorney Docket 118584) entitled "Finite Impulse Response Filter Method and Apparatus"; Serial No. 10/776,508 (Attorney Docket 118591) entitled "Apparatus and Methods for De-Screening Scanned Documents"; and Serial No. 10/776,516 (Attorney Docket 118601) entitled "Segmentation Method and System for Scanned Documents", U.S. Applications (attorney docket numbers 117544, 117521, 117745, 117746, 117747, 117748, 118584, 118591, and 118601) filed on an even date herewith and all of which were filed concurrently with the present application, are currently pending, and are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

Please replace paragraph [0021] beginning on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0002] The need to estimate the halftone frequency and magnitude stems from the fact that almost all printed matter, with the exception of a few devices like dye-sublimation or silver-halide photography, is printed out using halftone screens. These halftones are very specific to the printing device and, when scanned and re-halftoned for printing may cause visible artifacts and/or unacceptable Moiré patterns if not properly removed. A de-screen module (DSC) as described in Applicant's co-pending application, Serial No. 10/776,508

(Attorney Docket 118591)~~Attorney Docket number 118591~~, relies on the information that is produced by the screen estimator module in order to eliminate (filter out) the original halftone patterns from the original scanned image. The suppression of halftones is especially important for color documents, since these are typically printed with four or more color separations containing slightly different screens at different angles and or frequencies, and these may interact with each other to cause undesirable spatial artifacts.